

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating a patient infected with a retrovirus, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
2. A method for treating retrovirus-induced metabolic changes, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
3. A method for treating a patient infected with HIV, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
4. A method for treating HIV-induced metabolic changes, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
5. A method for treating retrovirus-induced metabolic changes in a patient's systemic tryptophan levels, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
6. A method for treating HIV-induced metabolic changes in a patient's systemic tryptophan levels, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
7. A method for treating the depletion of tryptophan in a retrovirus-infected patient, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
8. A method for treating the depletion of tryptophan in an HIV-infected patient, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.

9. A method for replenishing nicotinamide nucleotide precursors, which comprises the step of administering a daily pharmacological dose of niacin.
10. The method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is of an amount sufficient to prevent retrovirus-induced metabolic changes in systemic tryptophan concentrations.
11. The method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is of an amount sufficient to slow down the rate of retrovirus-induced metabolic changes in systemic tryptophan concentrations.
12. The method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is of an amount sufficient to stop the rate of retrovirus-induced metabolic changes in systemic tryptophan concentrations.
13. The method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is of an amount sufficient to increase a patient's level of plasma tryptophan.
14. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is greater than 100 milligrams per day.
15. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is approximately 3 grams per day.
16. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose exceeds the standard recommended daily amounts for coenzyme activity.
17. A method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose exceeds amounts normally obtainable with routine diet and supplement practices.

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18. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose exceeds the RDA [recommended daily allowance] of niacin.
19. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is sufficient to raise the intracellular levels of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide [NAD] in persons with HIV infection.
20. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is sufficient to replete nicotinamide nucleotide precursors [NAD].
21. A method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose of niacin is administered to persons with HIV and other co-infections.
22. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose of niacin is administered in combination with antiviral medications such as reverse transcriptase inhibitors and protease inhibitors.
23. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is administered in combination with other treatments for HIV infection to improve the metabolic status of an infected patient.
24. A method as in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, where said dose is sufficient to inhibit new virus production.


